



MEDIA RELEASE

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New Low Glow partners join forces to protect Bundaberg's sea turtles

In follow up to the recent visit of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, the Low Glow collaboration is delighted to announce that it is expanding its efforts to protect critically endangered loggerhead turtles at Mon Repos beach in Bundaberg, Queensland.

The Bundaberg Regional Council, the Sea Turtle Alliance and Bundaberg North Burnett Tourism are joining existing Low Glow project partners – Greenfleet, The Walt Disney Company (Australia) and The Prince's Trust Australia – to support the protection of the local sea turtle population.

"Low Glow has built significant momentum and we are absolutely delighted to welcome new organisations in the Low Glow collaboration," says Wayne Wescott, Greenfleet CEO.

"The expansion will strengthen relationships with the Bundaberg community and extend our focus on practical environmental action," Wescott adds.

Formed in 2015, the Low Glow collaboration works with the local community to protect the Mon Repos turtle population by reducing artificial light pollution and planting native biodiverse trees. Mon Repos is home to the largest sea turtle population on the Australian eastern seaboard.

To date, over 80,000 native trees have been planted in the Barolin Nature Reserve, immediately behind Mon Repos beach. The trees will grow into a 'green curtain' to help shield the turtle population from city lights and contribute to climate change resilience.

The Low Glow collaboration also launched an innovative pilot program *Lights Out: Turtles About*, encouraging residents to 'dim their house lights' during the turtle breeding season between November and March.

"The Council has a strong commitment to our local environment. We look forward to building on the already strong relationship to develop further innovative activities designed to protect the Mon Repos sea turtles," explains Cr Bill Trevor, Bundaberg Regional Council.

The expanded partnership builds on the deep connection the local community has with turtles. It is an exciting new phase for the Low Glow project; and the six partners look forward to further working with the community and supporting sea turtle conservation efforts in the region.

To find out how you can help, visit: www.lowglow.org

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About Greenfleet: With over 20 years' experience, Greenfleet is Australia's most trusted source of biodiverse carbon offsets. As an environmental not-for-profit organisation, Greenfleet's mission is to protect our climate by restoring our forests. Since 1997, Greenfleet has planted more than 9 million native trees across Australia and New Zealand, restoring more than 475 native biodiverse forests. The projects are funded by individuals and organisations that support Greenfleet's work through carbon offset donations. Visit: www.greenfleet.org.au

About The Prince's Trust Australia: The Prince's Trust Australia provides a coordinating presence for the diverse portfolio of His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales' Australian charitable endeavours. The Prince's Trust Australia supports the development and delivery of innovative, high impact projects across three focus areas, including: addressing youth unemployment; supporting transitioning Australian Defence personnel in small business management; and encouraging sustainable practices for both the natural and built environment. Visit: www.princes-trust.org.au

About The Walt Disney Company: The Walt Disney Company, together with its subsidiaries and affiliates, is a leading diversified international entertainment and media enterprise. The Walt Disney Company has been active in Australia since 1988. There are now three offices in Australia and New Zealand that employ more than 280 staff. Today, The Walt Disney Company is one of the most active and largest foreign entertainment companies in Australia with diversified business in consumer products, publishing, mobile content, television and family entertainment programs. Visit: <http://corporate.disney.go.com/>

About Bundaberg Regional Council: Bundaberg Regional Council services the Bundaberg Region, approximately four hours' drive north of Brisbane. Strategically situated at the southern end of the Great Barrier Reef and stretching from the Burrum River to Baffle Creek, the Bundaberg Region covers more than 6,000 square kilometres and is home to more than 90,000 people. The region boasts diverse natural resources and facilities and lays claim to the internationally renowned Southern Great Barrier Reef and the Mon Repos Turtle Rookery. Visit: <http://www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au>

About Bundaberg North Burnett Tourism: Bundaberg North Burnett Tourism (BNBT) is one of Tourism and Event Queensland's (TEQ) officially recognised and accredited Regional Tourism Organisations (RTOs). A membership based, not for profit organisation, BNBT's key objective is to build destination awareness through a targeted program of marketing and industry development, with the support of the local tourism industry, businesses and key stakeholders of Bundaberg Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council and Tourism & Events Queensland. Visit: www.bundabergregion.org/corporate

About the Sea Turtle Alliance: Formed in 2015, the Sea Turtle Alliance is a group of key local advocates for turtle conservation. The Alliance has been actively involved with the Mon Repos Turtle Centre and works with Bundaberg Regional Council and the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service on research on 'turtle-friendly' lighting best practice.

Media Contact: Stefan Delatovic, 0420 549 550, Stefan@think-hq.com.au